

In the Claims:

1. **(currently amended):** A pigment, comprising
 - (A) optionally a layer consisting of a metal,
 - (B) at least one layer, which is located between the layers (A) and (C), if a layer (A) is present, and consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O), and
 - (C) optionally a layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, especially $1.10 \leq z \leq 2.0$, more especially $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
2. **(currently amended):** A pigment according to claim 1, comprising
 - (B) at least one layer, which consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O), and
 - (C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, especially $1.10 \leq z \leq 2.0$, more especially $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
3. **(currently amended):** The pigment according to claim 1 or 2, comprising
 - (C1) a layer consisting of SiO_z ,
 - (B) at least one layer, which is located between the layers (C1) and (C2), and consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O),
 - (C2) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, especially $1.10 \leq z \leq 2.0$, more especially $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
4. **(currently amended):** The pigment according to claim 3, comprising
 - (D) an additional layer of a material having a high index of refraction, especially TiO_2 , amorphous carbon, diamond-like carbon, or silicon carbide.
5. **(currently amended):** The pigment according to claim 4, comprising
 - (D1) a layer of a material having a high index of refraction, especially TiO_2 ,
 - (C1) a layer consisting of SiO_z ,
 - (B) at least one layer, which is located between the layers (C1) and (C2), and consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O),
 - (C2) a layer consisting of SiO_z , and
 - (D2) a layer of a material having a high index of refraction, especially TiO_2 , wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, especially $1.10 \leq z \leq 2.0$, more especially $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

6. **(currently amended):** The pigment according to ~~any of claim [[s]] 1, to 5,~~ wherein the metal is selected from Ag, Al, Cu, Cr, Mo, Ni, Ti, or alloys thereof, ~~, especially aluminum.~~
7. **(currently amended):** The pigment according to claim 3 having the following layer structure: $\text{TiO}_2/\text{SiO}_z/\text{core}/\text{SiO}_z/\text{TiO}_2$, wherein the core is formed of a layer (B) or of a layer (B)/layer (A)/layer (B), wherein the layer (B) is present on the plane-parallel faces, but not the side faces of layer (A), wherein the SiO_z layer is only present on the plane-parallel faces, but not the side faces and the TiO_2 layer is applied to the whole surface; $\text{SiC}/\text{SiO}_z/\text{core}/\text{SiO}_z/\text{SiC}$, or $\text{C}/\text{SiO}_z/\text{core}/\text{SiO}_z/\text{C}$, wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, ~~, especially $1.10 \leq z \leq 2.0$, more especially $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.~~
8. **(currently amended):** A pigment, ~~obtainable obtained~~ by calcination of plane-parallel structures (flakes), comprising (A) at least one layer consisting of a metal and (C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z with $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, ~~, especially $1.1 \leq z \leq 2.0$, in a non-oxidizing atmosphere and optionally coating of the obtained flakes with further layers.~~
9. **(currently amended):** Plane-parallel structures, comprising (A) a layer consisting of a metal, ~~, especially aluminum,~~ and (C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z , wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, ~~, especially $1.10 \leq z \leq 2.0$, more especially $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.~~
10. **(cancelled).**
11. **(currently amended):** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, G composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to ~~any of claim [[s]] 1, to 8.~~
12. **(cancelled).**
13. **(new):** A pigment according to claim 1, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
14. **(new):** A pigment according to claim 2, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

15. (new): The pigment according to claim 4, wherein the material comprising the additional layer (D) having a high index of refraction is selected from the group consisting of TiO₂, amorphous carbon, diamond like carbon and silicon carbide.
16. (new): A pigment according to claim 5, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
17. (new): The pigment according to claim 5, wherein the material comprising layers (D1) and (D2) is TiO₂.
18. (new): A pigment according to claim 9, wherein the metal of layer (A) is aluminum.
19. (new): A pigment according to claim 9, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
20. (new): A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 2.
21. (new): A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 8.
22. (new): A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 13.